What You Should Know

Shooting and Hunting
Select a safe location for your target practice. Do not shoot at glass, it will create a hazard to others. Failing to remove targets and shells is considered littering. Do not attach targets to plants. State firearms and hunting regulations apply to all public lands.

Camping
Pack it in; pack it out. Camping is limited to a 14 day stay. Conserve and use water wisely.
Keep pets under control at all times. Leave natural and cultural features as you found them.

Campfires
When there is a high fire danger campfires may be restricted. Check with the local BLM office for information. Use only dead and down wood, or bring your own.

Mine Shafts
Mine shafts are extremely dangerous do not enter them.

In case of emergency call 911.
The nearest public telephone is at the Havasu Landing Store. For more information please contact:

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management.

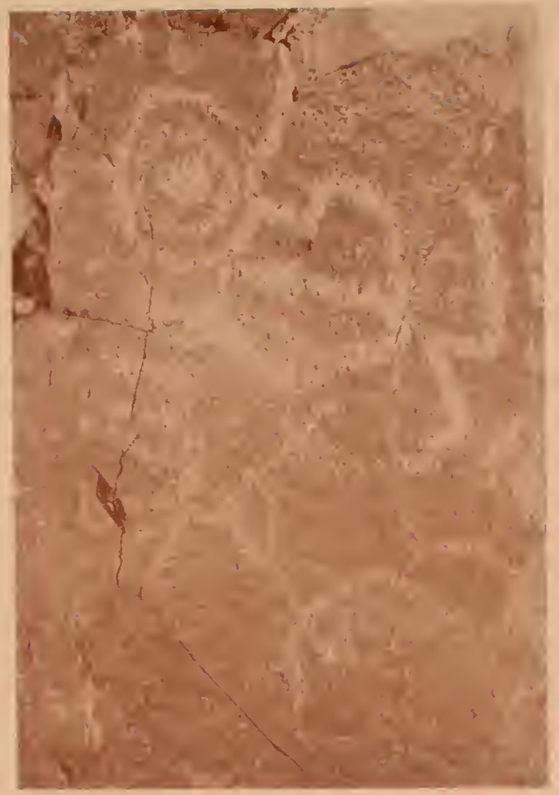
Needles Field Office
101 West Spikes Road
Needles, CA 92363
(760) 326-7000

California Desert District Office
6221 Box Springs Blvd.
Riverside, CA 92507
(909) 697-5200

TREAD LIGHTLY!
On Public and Private Land.

BLM/CA/GI-99-002+8300

☆ U S Government Printing Office 1999-784-593



People and the Mojave

Chemehuevi Wash and the surrounding area was used by Native Americans for seasonal camps, hunting, and sacred and ritual purposes. Trading routes also passed through the Chemehuevi and Whipple Mountains. The area also played an important role for early travelers and miners. West Well was on an early alignment of the old road that ran between Needles and Parker, Arizona. The well provided a reliable water source in this dry area. Remains of mining activity can still be seen in the area surrounding Chemehuevi Wash. Use caution when visiting these sites and never approach mine shafts even if they are fenced.

The Living Desert

Some people think the desert is a silent isolated place, but you will discover the desert is alive with large and small creatures. Many of the desert animals are nocturnal which means you may only see them if you are willing to wait patiently and watch in the dark. During the heat of the day you may find many desert animals under the shade of desert plants. Vehicle travel off existing or designated routes destroys small plants and grasses that many animals rely upon for food and shelter. In order to protect desert habitat for the many species that live here please stay on existing or designated routes and obey posted regulations.

BLM LIBRARY
88071739

BLM California

Chemehuevi Wash Recreation Area

The desert may appear brutal and harsh, but it is a fragile environment. Travel off existing routes in this area has created a dense trail network. Over several years these illegal trails have been accepted by users as legal routes of travel. These newly created routes tended to be on steep hillsides and in tributary washes. This lead to erosion of soils, safety concerns, and degradation of wildlife and cultural sites. To protect these resources you will find some areas closed to vehicles. BLM also maintains and signs trails in other areas. By respecting and obeying limited use areas [illegible]ment signs you will help to preserve your [illegible]unities now and in the future.

TL
235.6
.C44
1999

1044199510 1082071739
TL
235.6
.C44
1999

Off Highway Vehicle Use

Open Areas
Vehicles may travel anywhere within the area. Open areas can be found along the Parker Dam Road south of Parker Dam and off Highway 62 at Rice. Boundaries are clearly signed.

Closed Areas
No vehicle travel is allowed.

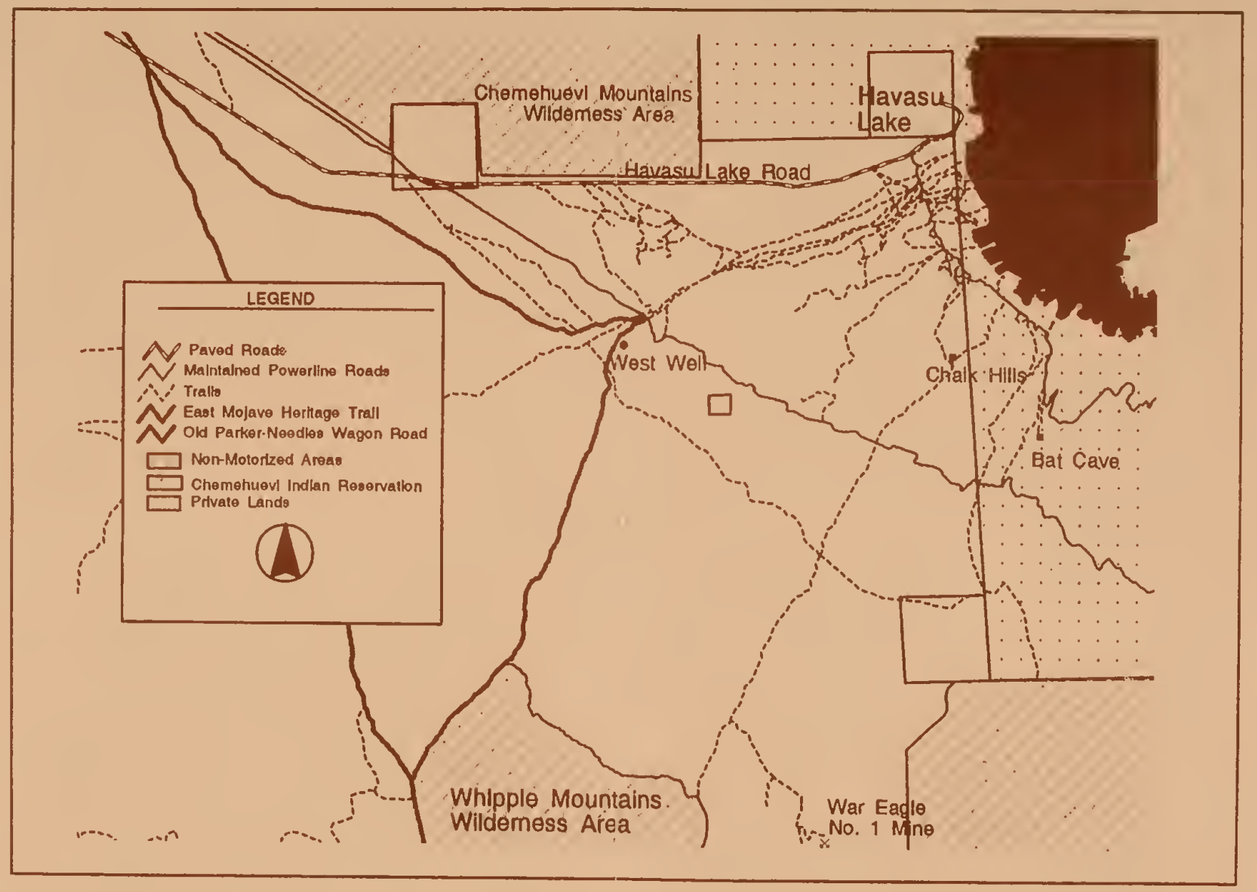
Limited Use Areas
All vehicles are limited to existing and/or designated routes. No cross-country travel is allowed.

Wilderness Areas
The use of motorized vehicles in wilderness areas is prohibited.

State and Federal Regulations
A current California Green Sticker or current license plate is required on all vehicles. For registration information contact the California Department of Motor Vehicles. For information in the Needles area call (760) 326-3213. Vehicles operated on county roads and highways must be registered and equipped for highway use. Vehicles operated off road must be equipped with an approved muffler, brakes, and spark arrester. When operating at night headlights and taillights are required.

All persons regardless of age, who operate an all terrain vehicle (ATV) on public land must wear an approved safety helmet. An ATV is a motor vehicle designed for operation off the highway by an operator with no passengers. It is against the law to carry passengers on an ATV. Don't operate your vehicle faster than what is safe. When riding within 50 feet of a concentrated area or near animals reduce your speed to 15 mph.

BLM Library
Denver Federal Center
Bldg. 50, OC-521
P.O. Box 25047
Denver, CO 80225



Points of Interest

Chemehuevi Indian Reservation boundary is marked by red and white posts, the land to the east of these posts is owned by the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe. Picnic areas and hiking trails are available for public use. Permits are required for hunting, fishing, camping, and off highway vehicle use within the reservation. Contact the Chemehuevi Conservation Department at (760) 858-5322 for permits and information..
West Well has been used as a water source since the early 1900's when it served travelers on the old Parker to Needles wagon road.
Old Parker to Needles Wagon Road runs southward from West Well. Traveling this route will take you along the west edge of the Whipple Mountain Wilderness Area past several old mines.
Havasu Palms is a small lakeside resort on the western edge of Lake Havasu on the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation. Havasu Palms can be accessed by both the lowline road and the Metropolitan Water District right-of-way.
Parker Dam can be reached by traveling southeast on the Metropolitan Water District right-of-way. The route is bordered on the western edge by the Whipple Mountain Wilderness Area and has spectacular rock formations and views of Lake Havasu City.

Off Highway Vehicle Use (continued)

It is illegal for anyone who is under the influence of alcohol or drugs to operate an off road vehicle (ORV). Off road vehicles means any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain. In addition operating or riding on an ORV with an open container of alcohol is prohibited.

ORV operators must be able to reach and operate all controls on the vehicle, and persons under 14 must have an approved safety certificate in possession and must be accompanied by and under the direct supervision of a parent or guardian. Persons under 18 must have an approved safety certificate in possession or be under direct supervision of an adult who is in possession of a approved safety certificate.

Desert Safety

Plan Your Trip Carefully
Take along appropriate maps. Tell someone where you are going and when you will return. Stick with your itinerary.

Dress Properly
Always wear proper protective clothing when riding off highway or all terrain vehicles, including a helmet, goggles, gloves, boots, chest protector, long pants, and long sleeve shirt.

Carry Plenty Of Water
A gallon of water per person per day is the minimum that should be carried. Do not ration your water, it will only do you good if you drink it. Turn back when water is half gone. Don't forget extra water for your vehicle.